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File: Wallenberg

Wash. Post
APR 8

What Happened to Wallenberg?

Swedes Sore at '44 Red Snatching

By Reuters

STOCKHOLM—A Soviet military escort took Swedish Red Cross Envoy Raoul Wallenberg into custody in wartime Budapest 12 years ago and started an international mystery.

Wallenberg was a wealthy young banker who had volunteered for the dangerous Red Cross assignment and helped save thousands of Jews in Hungary from Nazism.

A Soviet major and his troops picked up Wallenberg on a Budapest street and told him he was being taken into "protective custody." They permitted him to call at the Swedish legation, where he told a friend: "I don't know if I will be treated as a guest or as a prisoner."

He has not been seen since.

WALLENBERG'S fate is one of the most discussed topics in Sweden today. Premier Tage Erlander, who visited Moscow last week, pressed the Kremlin for definite information about Wallenberg's whereabouts.

A joint Swedish-Russian announcement said only that the Russians would re-investigate the case.

Erlander took with him to Moscow a thick dossier containing several reports that a most meeting Wallenberg's deportation had been implemented in Russia. The reports came chiefly from returning prisoners of war.

Most Swedes think the former Red Cross envoy is being held as a political prisoner.

After the war, more than one million Swedes signed a petition addressed to Stalin personally seeking Wallenberg's release. There was no reaction from the Kremlin.

The Wallenberg case has done more to poison Sweden's relations with Russia than any other single event since Soviet planes shot down two unarmed Swedish aircraft in 1952.

WALLENBERG was a member of one of Sweden's biggest banking houses. He was 32 years old when the Swedish government sent him on the Red Cross mission to Hungary. He traveled on a diplomatic passport.

His main task in Hungary was to help Jews with Swedish connections to escape the Nazi terror which preceded the fall of Budapest. He was empowered to issue special safety passes to such Jews, which gave them the same rights as foreigners in Hungary.

Wallenberg gathered these Jews in so-called "Swedish houses" in the city. These houses were treated as neutral territory and the inmates left unmolested.

Wallenberg soon began enlarging the scope of his mission to include Jews with no Swedish connections. At the time of his disappearance, he had assembled more than 15,000 Jews in 32 different "Swedish houses" in the capital.

He vanished shortly before the Russians took control of the whole city.

Later, the Soviet Ambassador in Stockholm, Mrs. Alexandra Kollontay, sent a message to Wallenberg's mother, Mrs. Maj Von Dardel, that Wallenberg was in good hands. Mrs. Kollontay gave the same assurance to Foreign Minister Christian Guenther.

Despite repeated Swedish complaints in Moscow, no further information was supplied by the Soviet authorities. In 1947, the Russians broke their silence to say that Wallenberg was not in the Soviet Union.

Though the Swedish Foreign Office continued to investigate the case, no further developments took place for several years. Swedish Foreign Minister Osten Unden told parliament that the Russian statement could not be disproved, but strong measures would be taken if any new evidence about Wallenberg's whereabouts could be produced.

IN 1955, an Italian diplomat, Claudio Di Mohr, returned home after three years imprisonment in Moscow. Di Mohr said he had spent from 1945 to 1948 in a cell next to the one occupied by Wallenberg.

The two men, he said, had corresponded daily by knocking on the wall for almost three years. Di Mohr had never seen Wallenberg, but supplied details about him which convinced most Swedes.

Last year, a Swedish-Estonian prisoner in Siberia, Arthur Toreviton, sent a message to Sweden through a returning German prisoner of war that he had met Wallenberg in the Taishet camp in 1951. Toreviton said this camp has a special department for "valuable state prisoners." He told the German that Wallenberg had tuberculosis. Toreviton said Wallenberg had been sentenced to 25 years in prison for espionage.

Shortly before Erlander went to Moscow, a new witness appeared in the case. A Finnish citizen, who in 1950 had been a prisoner at Vladimirsk, in Siberia, stated that he had been informed by a prison interpreter that there was a man in the next cell called Wallenberg.

The Finn, however, never was allowed to go out and thus never saw his cell neighbor.

Since political prisoners are often moved from camp to camp, the Swedes did not consider the evidence of the two former prisoners conflicting.

N.Y. Times
APR 11 1956

Mollet Quits European Post

PARIS, April 10 (Reuters)—Premier Guy Mollet, resigned today from the post of President of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, which he has held since 1954. He gave as a reason the difficulties of combining the task of president of the assembly with French Government duties.

Herald Post
APR 11 1956

NATO Atom Exchange

PARIS, April 10 (R) — An agreement for exchange of certain atomic information among the 15 members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has gone into effect, NATO announced today.

The agreement signed last June 22 went into force March 29.

S.T. Times
APR 10 1956

ADENAUER CONFERS ON WORLD SITUATION

Special to The New York Times.

BONN, Germany, April 9—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and his top-ranking foreign policy aides conferred for six hours today in a general "evaluation" of the international situation.

The extraordinary conference took place at a resort hotel in the Swiss mountain town of Arosa, where the Chancellor is vacationing. Dr. Adenauer interrupted his holiday to summon Dr. Heinrich von Brentano, Foreign Minister, and Walter Hallstein, State Secretary of the Foreign Ministry, for a conference after a spate of disturbing news from abroad last week.

A brief communique released here said that Dr. Adenauer and his aides "reached full agreement on their evaluation of the international situation." The announcement said the highlight of the discussion was the United Nations disarmament talks in London and their relation to the problem of Germany's reunification.

The relationship of international disarmament to the German unity question is the crux of the West German's present concern over the international political atmosphere. Guy Mollet, French Premier, said in an interview last week that Germany's particular problem should take second place to the effort for an East-West agreement on the arms issue.

Nikita S. Khrushchev, Soviet Communist party chief, immediately applauded M. Mollet for his "positive" attitude. This had an ominous ring to the West German leaders, already disturbed by disclosure of the Soviet disarmament plan that appeared to be based on an indefinite division of Germany.

A.J. Times
APR 1 1956

Canada Bars Paul Robeson

Special to The New York Times.

TORONTO, April 10—Singer Paul Robeson will not be permitted to enter Canada to begin a seventeen-concert tour, scheduled to start April 17. The Federal Immigration Department has denied the baritone a visa, announcing simply that "he will not be admitted under present circumstances." The sponsor of the projected cross-Canada tour was the Labor-Progressive (Communist) party.

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